

BA 2063

SEVENTH DISTRICT COLORED SCHOOL

1870-1872

HEREFORD

PRIVATE

The present Pringle House is a slightly enlarged version of a school that was put up by private effort before the County School Commissioners began to provide buildings for black pupils. In 1872, the county furnished a teacher for Hereford. The 1877 atlas shows the wording "Cold. Schl. Ho." near present St. Luke's U.M. Church. The school stood on church property until 1884 when the School Commissioners took title. This school continued until it was absorbed by Blue Mount School in 1936. In 1947, the Board of Education sold to George Alex Bull and Beulah B. Bull, who had also purchased the surplus white school in Hereford. The present owners took title in 1956 and extended the building one bay to the west. This is a small, rectangular building, with an outer coating of aluminum siding, three bays in depth. There is a side (north) door and also an east end door on the main (gable end) facade. Style is vernacular the structure no longer resembles a school house.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI 0320635502

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC SEVENTH DISTRICT COLORED SCHOOL

AND/OR COMMON

Hereford Colored School

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

16,734 (w/s) Hereford Road, 0.5 mile south of Monkton Road

CITY, TOWN

Hereford

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

JAMES F. PRINGLE

Telephone #: 472-2642

STREET &amp; NUMBER

16,734 Hereford Road

CITY, TOWN

Hereford

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21111

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Courts Building

Liber #: 4348

Folio #: 103

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

NONE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hereford Colored School is a small, rectangular building of frame with an outer coating of aluminum siding and a gable roof covered with green rubber or asphalt tile material. The school was originally two bays in length, but the present owners extended it to the west, producing a three-bay configuration. Originally covered with wood shingles, it was covered with metal siding by the Pringles.

There is an entrance on the highway side (east) with the center door flanked by two double-hung sash windows of 6-over-6 layout. The northside presents another entrance, a center door sheltered by a cantilevered porch roof. On either side of the side-yard door is a double-hung sash window with 6-over-6 lights. Windows on both north and east are fitted with louvered shutters.

The foundation is concrete coated, with stone under the 19th Century school portion and concrete block under the recent residential part. There is a short, brick inside end-chimney at the west extremity.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

**SEVENTH DISTRICT COLORED SCHOOL**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

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SPECIFIC DATES	1882	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The present Pringle dwelling is actually a former school that was apparently the second one on this site. The first generation of schools for black children was established by private efforts before the county school commissioners began to provide buildings for the education of the newly emancipated.

School Board records show that in February 1870, no schools for blacks existed in the Seventh Election District. (1) But two years later, when the Board of County School Commissioners agreed to provide teachers if a space or building were provided without cost, the town of Hereford was designated as eligible for setting up a school. (2)

The 1877 atlas showed "Cold. Schl. Ho." south of a small square that symbolized the present St. Luke's U.M. Church (3) The school actually stood on the church property, which itself dated to 1867 (or possibly to 1865). Scharf's county history published in 1881 listed only one colored school in the Seventh District, which bore the designation "No. 1." Alfred Sparks was listed as teacher. (4)

School Commissioners minutes show that at the meeting of March 3, 1882, "An application for a donation to assist the patrons of colored School 1, District 7, was referred to Samuel Gore and he was instructed to ascertain the amount necessary to complete the house now in course of erection by said patrons of said school." (5)

In 1884, the Board of County School Commissioners bought the ground around the school from the church trustees, and the trustees had to get a new deed for the church property because they had never had the original instrument recorded. The school commissioners, in their turn, neglected to record their school lot deed until 1890. (6)

CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1, ITEM 8, PAGE 2

## SEVENTH DISTRICT COLORED SCHOOL

Published reports of the commissioners showed that the year after buying the school, they had expended \$200 on a "Frame Col'd School" identified as District 7, School No. 1. (7) All clues seem to suggest that the school of the 1870s was entirely replaced. Amy C. Crewe's history of local education states that \$375 was spent on a frame structure at Hereford Colored School in 1887, but she adds that the local people probably paid the bill because the amount is not found in the published accounts of the commissioners. (8)

The Hereford Colored School absorbed Blue Mount School in 1936 and, in 1945, Hereford was phased out, replaced by a new consolidated but still segregated school. (9) In 1947, the Board of Education, corporate successor of the commissioners, sold the property to George Alex Bull and Beulah B. Bull. (10) The Bulls had also purchased the obsolete school formerly attended by white pupils on the York Road at the south end of Hereford (BA 910). The Bulls sold to Eugene Noel later the same year, and the property passed through a number of hands and came into possession of the Pringles in 1956. (11) That family extended the building one bay to the west.

This school is an interesting reminder of the period when the newly emancipated were cast adrift to fend for themselves and it is a physical link with that time and a link with the era when local government began to meet its obligation to all classes of citizens.

## NOTES:

1. Amy C. Crewe, No Backward Step Was Taken (Towson, 1949), p. 208.
2. Crewe, No Backward Step, p. 211. The first school was probably one or two years too late to have been a school built by the Baltimore Association for the Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People, which had been disbanded in early 1870.
3. G. M. Hopkins, Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia 1877), Seventh District Plate.
4. J. Thomas Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County (Philadelphia, 1881), p. 872.
5. Journal of Proceedings, School Commissioners, Baltimore County 1880-1888, f. 133, f. 137, f. 187.
6. Baltimore County Deeds, JWS 180:165.
7. Report of the Board of County School Commissioners (Towson, 1885), p. \_\_\_\_.
8. Crewe, No Backward Step, p. 213.
9. Crewe, No Backward Step, p. 101.
10. B.C. Deeds, JWB 1580:111.
11. B.C. Deeds, JWB 1633:140; also RRG 4348:103.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

SEVENTH DISTRICT COLORED SCHOOL

C. E. and S. B. Clemens, From Marble Hill to Maryland Line  
(Monkton, 1976).Amy C. Crewe, No Backward Step Was Taken (Towson, 1949).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 25 sq. perches, 0.409 acres

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

S67°	42'E	74.56 ft	
S2	49 W	87.45	
S22	33 W	10.0	
N80	27 W	172.0	
N18	50 E	123.4	
S73	31 E	72.4	to beginning. (Tax Map 22, Parcel P212)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore County Office of Planning and Zoning

DATE

June 6, 1980

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438







HEREFORD COLORED SCHOOL BA-2063  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain July 1980  
Neg. located at MHT  
North (main) facade from NE



HEREFORD COLORED SCHOOL BA-2063

Baltimore County, Maryland

J. McGrain July 1980

Neg. located at MHT

South & East facades from SE



HEREFORD COLORED SCHOOL BA-2063  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain July 1980  
Neg located at MHT  
East end from NE